

# CENTRAL TECHNICAL SUPPORT FACILITY CAMPAIGN PLAN

2010-2013



1 APRIL 2010



## FROM OUR DIRECTOR

The professionals of the Whitfill Central Technical Support Facility (CTSF) worked diligently throughout FY 09 to meet increasing mission demands and ensure the Warfighter had interoperable software. We succeeded in executing our core missions, improving support to our primary customers, and streamlining several major internal processes.

The over-arching purpose of the CTSF remains to support the Department of Defense's net-enabled strategic vision. This CTSF Campaign Plan helps achieve that purpose by defining our operational, organizational, and technical objectives for the next one to three years. Our plan affirms the CECOM LCMC mission and the Army CIO/G-6

strategic vision and goals, and supports ASA(ALT)'s force modernization initiatives and strategy.

The Army and Joint communities continue to experience cross-program development, integration, and interoperability challenges in fielding net-enabled capabilities which meet Warfighter needs. Within the next 36 months, the CTSF will undertake specific activities and perform directed tasks to transform an organization that was created to test and certify interoperability into the Army's center of excellence for battle command system interoperability.

***'CTSF – Achieving interoperability for the Army'***

COL Steven G. Drake

### CTSF VISION:

*Be a customer-valued organization, ensuring the best interoperable net-centric C4I capabilities are available to Army, Joint, and Coalition Warfighters.*



## CTSF MISSION

The Central Technical Support Facility provides a unique scalable environment, with skilled personnel, using qualified processes to support the Department of Defense's net-enabled strategic vision by executing *configuration management*, *system of systems integration* and *interoperability testing* for the Army and Joint C4I providers.

## CTSF MISSION DEFINED

**Configuration Management (CM)** – CM is responsible for maintaining version control of the deployed force software baseline on behalf of the Army CIO/G-6. Internally, CM supports testing and systems engineering assessments by exercising configuration management principles over all product manager (PM) delivered software.

**System of Systems Integration (SoSI)** – SoSI provides engineering support to numerous PMs by providing verification and validation services for LWN/BC software foundation products and unit data products. Additionally, SoSI supports PM representatives on the integration floors assisting systems engineering efforts to meet interoperability certification standards. Network technicians from SoSI support deploying units in configuring their respective tactical operations centers and teaching Soldiers how to fully set up their LWN/BC systems.

**Army Interoperability Testing and Certification (AIC)** – Test is the execution agent for the CIO/G-6 AIC process. AIC testing verifies a system, platform, or group of systems, can successfully exchange critical information while interfacing on a network. All Army information technology/National security systems (IT/NSS) are required to complete the AIC process. The Test branch also provides interoperability system assessments directly to PMs.

## INTRODUCTION



**CTSF Test Officers and Operators**

The purpose of this Campaign Plan is to establish and project a holistic approach to achieving our long-term objectives. The plan uses four Lines of Operation (LOO) to focus workforce efforts and establish a unified way ahead for the CTSF. The LOO are not prioritized and will be pursued with equal vigor toward attainment of our long-term objectives.

**LOO1 – Configuration Management**, executed on behalf of the Army CIO/G-6, ensures the integrity of the Army software baseline from which all advances and new capabilities are built and integrated.

**LOO2 – System of Systems Integration** provides superior software engineering support to Army and Joint materiel developers and the Warfighter. This LOO seeks to provide the PEOs/PMs a place to work and technical advice and assistance in their efforts to achieve system integration.

**LOO3 – AIC Planning and Execution** directed by the Army to ensure the interoperability of battle command systems and the Warfighter is provided the capabilities promised by the systems with the assurance that the network will not be compromised.

**LOO4 – Warfighter Interface** ensures the optimum use of the battle command systems. This LOO focuses on both direct and indirect support to the field commands and works directly with all the supporting LOOs.

The CTSF's campaign objectives are:

**Campaign Objective 1:** Team with other Army and Joint organizations.

**Campaign Objective 2:** Speed integrated, interoperable software to the Warfighter.

**Campaign Objective 3:** Provide Program Executive Offices/Program Managers system of systems integration capability.

**Campaign Objective 4:** Expand interaction with the Warfighter.

**Campaign Objective 5:** Establish the CTSF as the Army Center of Excellence for interoperability.

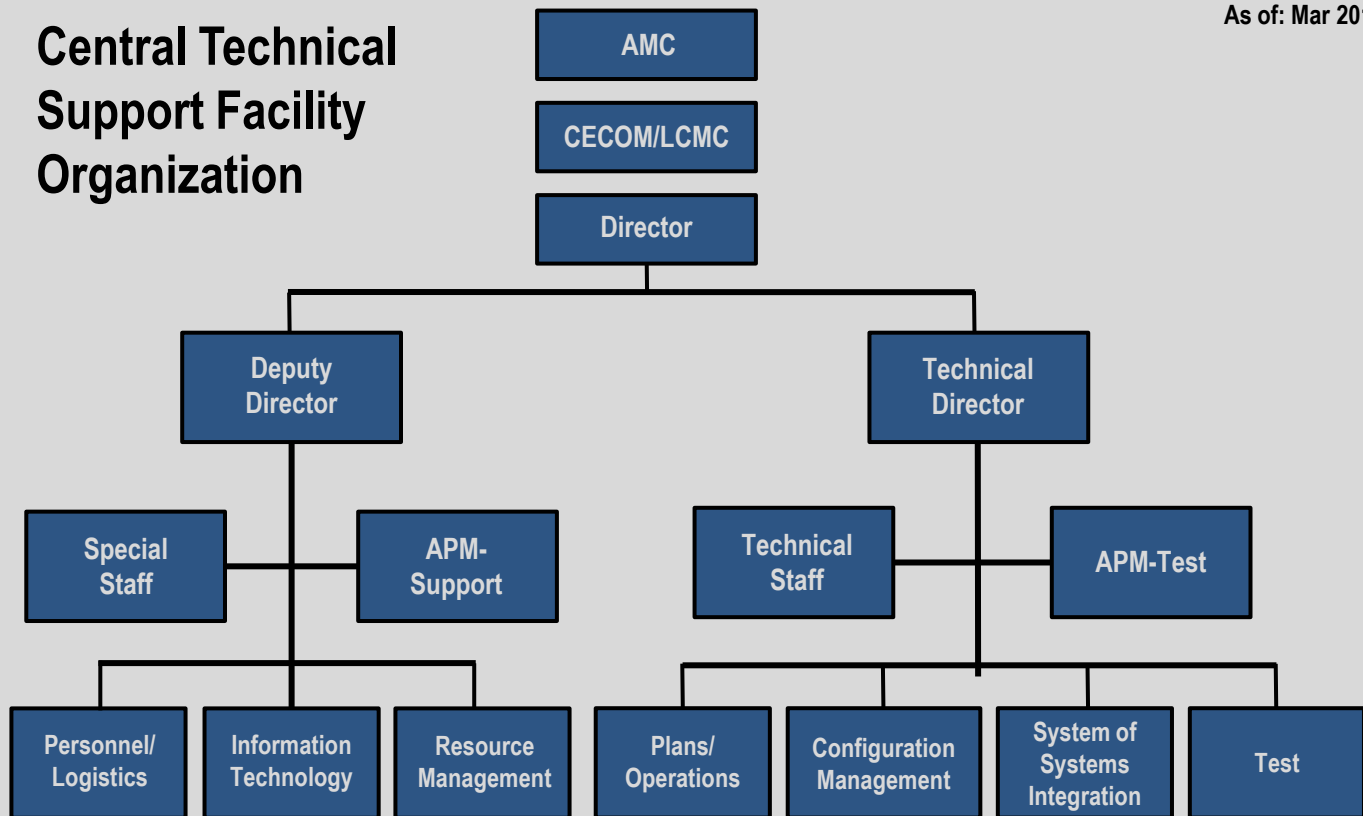
Throughout the execution of this plan, the CTSF will undertake all activity in the mindset of continuous process improvement. Our quality management office will review and modify existing processes to ensure the needs of the customer are in the forefront of everything we do.

## SITUATION

*a. The U.S. Army is a Soldier-centric organization, where information is second only to the Soldier as the most critical element in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century operations environment. Network-enabled capabilities are an integral component of a campaign quality, joint and expeditionary force capable of meeting the protracted war on terrorism. Net-enabled command capabilities require cross-program integration to overcome interoperability challenges.*



# Central Technical Support Facility Organization



## Historical Timeline

**2001** – The CTSF doubles its mission load by adding 24 Command, Control, Communications, Computing and, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) systems to the ABCS baseline

**2007** – The Acting Secretary of the Army and Chief of Staff of the Army transfer CTSF responsibilities from the Army CIO/G-6 to Army Materiel Command

**2009** – The CTSF becomes the first accredited member of the Federation of Net-Centric Sites (FaNS) as the test agent for the Warfighter Mission Area

**1996** – The CTSF organizes to provide rapid development integration testing of the Army Battle Command Systems (ABCS)

**2005** – The Army CIO/G-6 assumes control of the CTSF on 30 Nov; CTSF Configuration Management (CM) is designated as official CM agent for the Army

**2008** – The CTSF completes its 500<sup>th</sup> data product test

**2010 and beyond** – The CTSF mission will continue to grow as the number and complexity of Army systems increases; the Facility will continue to provide unparalleled support to the Warfighter and program developers; and the organization looks forward to the construction of a permanent facility on Fort Hood in the 2015-2016 timeframe



**LTC Ben Greiner, TCM-FSC3/Fires, Fort Sill, OK observes operations during AGILE Fire MAINEX in the Joint test lab at the CTSF**

## **Campaign Objective 1: Team with other Army and Joint organizations.**

Partnering with other agencies, offices, and activities will improve our internal processes, create efficiencies for the Army and DoD, and ultimately serve to deliver a better, more capable product to the Warfighter.

- Maximize distributed testing and integration
- Develop and implement partnerships with the LWN/BC community to leverage processes and procedures and to share data
- Establish environment and coordinate to assist PMs in implementing NETCOM's Host Based Security System (HBSS) for tactical systems
- Aggressively pursue the expansion of system of system integration and testing into other domains
- Collaborate with ASA(ALT) and CIO/G-6 to obtain and catalog artifacts from Self-Determination Process
- Constructively participate in MATDEV/BFA PDR, CDR, and IPTs to gain early understanding of changes to design constructs and provide feedback to developers
- Participate in community technical forums (e.g. JMETC, NDIA, ITEA, TRADOC WGs)
- Establish a role for CTSF in Joint system of systems integration and interoperability testing
- Strengthen working relationships with CECOM and AMC

## **Campaign Objective 2: Speed integrated, interoperable software to the field.**

Providing the best possible product in the shortest amount of time helps everyone from the taxpayer to the Soldier. The CTSF plays a key role in ensuring a quality, usable product ends up on platforms and in all TOCs; the challenge is to shorten the timeframe required to deliver a fully-functioning, usable product.

- In coordination with CIO/G-6, expand CM scope to encompass future Army IT/NSS
- Share and distribute test and integration data
- Implement virtual solutions for CTSF test floors and integration labs
- Leverage all events (risk reduction, AIC, IC&L) in order to reduce total test time and make efficient use of resources
- Adjust testing process to articulate system of system integration capability and risk being provided to Warfighter.



**CTSF Test Operator Lee Ferguson examines the features and functions of the Land Warrior Integrated Modular Fighting System. The system allows combat leaders to track the locations of their men and view maps and other tactical information through a tiny, helmet-mounted computer screen.**

**Campaign Objective 3:** Provide program executive offices and program managers with system of systems (SoS) integration capability.

The CTSF is staffed with degreed, dedicated network and software engineers. The CTSF labs are resourced to provide world-class systems of systems integration support to DoD material developers

- Evolve CTSF systems of systems integration environments as program technologies change
- Define CTSF lead role in support of material developers achieving SoS integrated capability
- Leverage opportunities for distributed integration to provide CTSF a larger architecture and tactical communications infrastructure



**Campaign Objective 4:** Expand interaction with the Warfighter.

The Soldier is our ultimate customer. Reaching out to the Soldiers and units that use the LWN/BC systems in combat to find out how well our products are working is a must. We must share any feedback we receive with our partners in the acquisition community. Continue to refine and develop feedback loops as part of a strategy of continuous learning and improvement.

- Refine feedback process with the Warfighter
- Improve CTSF support role and capabilities with support elements from Team C4ISR
- Advertise CTSF capability to produce timely and tailorable geospatial products to support Warfighters on the tactical edge
- Integrate Fort Hood soldiers into test and integration activities
- Advertise and maximize utilization of CTSF capability to perform system of systems integration and technical assessments in support of Warfighter requirements (e.g. TiGR, Secnet 54, MiRC, PAL)







**The CTSF  
Campus at 53<sup>rd</sup>  
St and North  
Ave, Fort Hood,  
Texas**

*circa 2007*

*“The over-arching purpose of the CTSF remains to support the Department of Defense’s net-enabled strategic vision.”*

*COL Drake*

**The Army LWN/BC  
Interoperability  
Center of  
Excellence**

*circa 2015*

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**Campaign Objective 5:** Establish the CTSF as the Army center of excellence for interoperability.

The CTSF system of system integration labs and cadre of engineering professionals combined with the core functions of configuration management and interoperability certification testing create the ideal environment to solve the DoD’s most challenging system of system integration and interoperability problems. Utilizing on-site expertise and a full suite of Army, Joint, and Combined LWN/BC equipment the CTSF is poised to provide world-class integration and interoperability software engineering support locally or in a distributed environment.

- Plan, obtain funding for, and construct a new state-of-the-art interoperability and test facility
  - Man the CTSF and certify the workforce to become a world-class system interoperability center
  - Modernize and expand the facility to enable next-generation software engineering and integration efforts
  - Establish dynamic configuration and reconfiguration capability for test floors and integration labs
  - Exploit existing and future technologies to optimize current CTSF capabilities and move toward the future
  - Develop a customer feedback forum to capture and distribute lessons learned
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